

House File 151 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 151

BY ISENHART

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the local food and farm program fund, by
2 making a name change and making an appropriation to the fund
3 to support projects for the development or expansion of food
4 hubs or farming innovation zones.
5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 267A.2, subsection 4, Code 2017, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 4. "*Fund*" means the local food and farm ~~program~~ innovation
4 fund created in section 267A.5.

5 Sec. 2. Section 267A.5, Code 2017, is amended to read as
6 follows:

7 **267A.5 Local food and farm ~~program~~ innovation fund.**

8 A local food and farm ~~program~~ innovation fund is created in
9 the state treasury under the control of the department. The
10 fund is separate from the general fund of the state. The fund
11 is composed of moneys appropriated by the general assembly and
12 moneys available to and obtained or accepted by the local food
13 and farm program from the United States government or private
14 sources for placement in the fund. Moneys in the fund shall
15 be used to carry out the purpose and goals of this chapter
16 as provided in section 267A.1, including but not limited to
17 administering the local food and farm program as provided in
18 section 267A.6. The fund shall be managed by the department in
19 consultation with the local food and farm coordinator, under
20 the supervision of the local food and farm program council.

21 **Sec. 3. LOCAL FOOD AND FARM INNOVATION FUND — APPROPRIATION**
22 **TO SUPPORT FOOD HUBS OR FARMING INNOVATION ZONES PROJECTS.**

23 1. There is appropriated from the general fund of the state
24 to the local food and farm innovation fund created in section
25 267A.5, as amended by this Act, for the fiscal year beginning
26 July 1, 2017, and ending June 30, 2018, the following amount,
27 or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the purposes
28 designated:

29 For purposes of supporting projects for the development or
30 expansion of food hubs or farming innovation zones in this
31 state:

32 \$ 300,000

33 2. Moneys appropriated in subsection 1 shall be allocated by
34 the local food and farm program council established in section
35 267A.3.

1 3. a. A food hub must be a centrally located facility with
2 a business management structure facilitating the aggregation,
3 storage, processing, distribution, or marketing of locally or
4 regionally produced food or food products.

b. A farming innovation zone must be a publicly recognized location for research, development, demonstration, and education that does all of the following:

8 (1) Prepares beginning farmers for the production of
9 diversified food products in Iowa for processing, wholesaling,
10 and retailing on a local or regional basis.

11 (2) Fosters the diversification of farm operations in which
12 existing producers are engaged.

13 (3) Supports the creation and expansion of production and
14 market infrastructure for a local foods economy, including but
15 not limited to food hubs.

16 4. Notwithstanding section 8.33, moneys that remain
17 unencumbered or unobligated at the end of the fiscal year shall
18 not revert but shall remain available to support the purposes
19 of this section for the succeeding fiscal year.

20 EXPLANATION

21 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
22 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

23 This bill amends provisions referring to the local food and
24 farm program fund. The bill changes its name to the local
25 food and farm innovation fund. The bill appropriates \$300,000
26 from the general fund of the state to the renamed fund for
27 the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017, and ending June 30,
28 2018, to support projects for the development or expansion
29 of food hubs or farming innovation zones in this state. Any
30 unencumbered or unobligated moneys at the end of the fiscal
31 year are to remain available to support the purposes of this
32 section for the succeeding fiscal year. The bill provides
33 that a food hub must be used to facilitate the aggregation,
34 storage, processing, distribution, or marketing of locally or
35 regionally produced food or food products. The bill provides

1 that a farm innovation zone must be engaged in providing for
2 research, development, demonstration, and education to (1)
3 prepare beginning farmers for local production and retailing,
4 (2) foster diversification of farm operations, and (3) support
5 the creation and expansion of infrastructure for a local foods
6 economy.